

REMARKS

Claims 1-13, 18-25 and 37-44 are now pending in this application. Claims 14-17 and 26-36 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer and claims 37-44 are being added to set forth additional aspects of the present invention. No new matter has been added by the above amendments. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The Final Office Action ("Office Action") objects to claims 25 and 29 because of typographical errors. Applicant thanks the examiner for drawing applicant's attention to these errors. Accordingly, applicant has amended claim 25 to recite "on the third monitor" to correct the typographical error "one the third monitor." The objection to claim 29 is moot in view of the cancellation of claim 29.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 25 U.S.C. 112

The Office Action rejects claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. 112, fourth paragraph, and 37 C.F.R. 1.75(c) as improperly broadening claim 4 by omitting the claimed "network" set forth in its parent claim. Applicant respectfully traverses. Claim 5, as amended, does not improperly broaden claim 4 because claim 5 does not omit the network. Indeed, the network is a limitation of claim 5. Claim 5 merely adds the limitation that the "student devices are programmed to display course content to students without using a network communication over a public network and without loading software onto said devices due to pre-storage of said course content" as recited in claim 5, as amended.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3, 18-21 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Khalsa (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0051958 A1) (hereinafter "Khalsa") and claims 13-15 as anticipated by Lee et al. (U.S. Patent Number 5,267,865) (hereinafter "Lee"). For reasons set forth below, the applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Claims 1-3, 18-21 and 24 are not anticipated by Khalsa because Khalsa does not disclose electronic instructor commands as recited in claims 1, 18 and 20, as amended. That is, Khalsa does not teach electronic computer-to-computer commands sent from an instructor computer to one or more student computers. Instead, Khalsa discloses broadcasts of human instructor-to-student communication not computer-to-computer commands. Since Khalsa does not disclose electronic instructor commands as claimed, the rejections should be withdrawn.

Applicant respectfully submits that even if Khalsa discloses electronic instructor commands as claimed (which it does not), the instructor-to-student communications do not modify course content stored on student computers, as required by claims 1 and 18. Furthermore, the instructor-to-student communications do not access a specified file stored on any student computer, run a specified computer program stored on any student computer, and/or initiate communications with any student computer, as required by claim 1. Therefore, Khalsa does not disclose several of the features of the rejected claims. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claims 1-3, 18-21 and 24 be withdrawn.

Similarly, applicant submits that Lee fails to teach or suggest electronic instructor commands. That is, the Lee "program," which is a computer program selected by the instructor, cannot also be an electronic command to a computer program. Such an interpretation would be illogical. Accordingly, Lee does not disclose all of the features of claim 13 and applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claim 13 be

withdrawn. Applicant has cancelled claims 14 and 15, and therefore these rejections are moot.

The Office Action rejects claims 29-30 and 34-36 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Abrahamson et al (U.S. Patent Number 5,002,491) (hereinafter "Abrahamson"). Applicant has cancelled claims 29-36 without prejudice or disclaimer and, therefore, these rejections are moot as well.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

The Office Action rejects claims 4-12 under Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Khalsa in view of Lee. Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of claim 4 is unfounded because neither Khalsa nor Lee disclose all elements of the claimed invention. As described under the Section 102(b) analysis above, neither reference discloses an electronic instructor command sent from the instructor computer to student computers. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claims 4-12 be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claim 25 under Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Khalsa in view of Champion et al (U.S. Patent Number 6,734,919) (hereinafter "Champion"). Applicants respectfully submit that neither Khalsa nor Champion disclose a single console having multiple monitors that display separate information on each monitor, and neither reference discloses instant text communications, as required by claim 25, as amended.

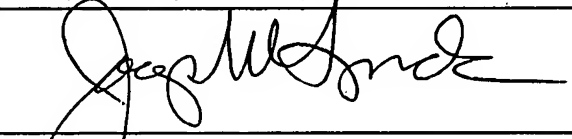
Even assuming that Khalsa and Champion can be combined to create the present invention (which they cannot), it still would not have been obvious to modify Khalsa in view of Champion because there was no motivation to combine the references. Khalsa discloses "group thinking," where the leader guides all viewers to achieve one state of mind. The present invention claims a console with multiple monitors that can display different course lesson information to different students. It would have been antithetical to the purpose of Khalsa to enable an instructor to send different messages

to each student viewer because such an alteration would disrupt unified group thinking. Therefore, applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claim 25 be withdrawn for this additional reason.

The Office Action rejects dependent claims 22-23 under Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Khalsa in view of Abrahamson. These claims are dependent on independent claim 20, and, accordingly, are patentable for at least the same reasons given above. The Section 103(a) rejections of dependent claims 16-17 and 31-33 are moot because all of these claims are cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, favorable reconsideration of this application, withdrawal of all outstanding grounds of rejection, and the issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

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